

show our trust in him. Sometimes in illness or the danger of losing a loved friend men that have never prayed before bend their stubborn knees and pray as though their very life depended on their prayer.

We should feel so thankful and greatly honored to know that poor, weak and unworthy creatures as we are have a right to call God "Our Father" and truly he is a kind and loving father to us for "Ye are all the children of God through faith in Christ Jesus."

We are commanded to "pray without ceasing" and we are not to pray for ourselves alone but to pray for others. We should ask the Lord to "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those that trespass against us."

Our Savior takes it for granted that every man will be ready to admit that he has trespassed, that he has sinned. He does not suppose any one is so ignorant as to consider themselves faultless.

Faith is the gate to heaven and prayer is the key that unlocks. Let us pray to be more like him who is our great example and pray to be more consecrated in his service.

"Lift your heart in prayer to Jesus
He can all your wants supply.
Tell him all your cares and trouble,
None like him can satisfy.
Lift your heart in prayer to Jesus
When in sorrow's darkest hour;
He will know just how to rest you.
Praise his name he has the power."

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PUBLIC OPINION

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The necessity of a just public opinion is evident to all; at its bar the delinquent should be rebuked, but in those mild tones of charity which enliven hope, prompt reform, and which do not encourage and provoke recklessness nor originate scandal. A healthy public opinion has for its legitimate province a most delicate yet important task. The gossip of the garrulous and self-righteous often receive this name but how widely does it vary in its office! It aggravates and inflames rather than corrects the tendencies of the erring. For instance, a young man takes a misstep, in how many instances does an unchristian zeal ruin where a judicious kindness might remedy! If he is one whose aspirations are confined to the locality where scandalous report has gained currency and is kept alive by vindictiveness of gossiping, mischief making community (often the case) he concludes from the merciless rigor with which his name is handled and his character aspersed, that he is already ruined; that his aspirations (all to make him manly) must be abandoned; that, in fact, he is deserted by the goodwill of his fellows, at least, those whose influence attract him to virtue, and that he can be no worse. In nine cases out of

ten he accepts the embrace which is offered by those whose influence is for evil, and seeks to deserve the name which an unjust public opinion has bestowed. How many are thus scourged into vice by the scorpion tongue of slander! How mercilessly the self-righteous pursue! And how scornfully do they pull aside their skirts when they have fully accomplished their hellish work! "It must be cruel even to be kind." Yes but the cruelty born of kindness does not torture the victim to despair and then desert him (because, forsooth, the inventions of cruelty are exhausted) but rebukes through love, chastises with tenderness and punishes without vengeance. "To the measure that you are willing to be kind unto yourself, be ye also kind to others." Thousands are ruined thus. In one way may they be made indifferent to this attraction downward: First, through an enlightened and charitable public opinion; and secondly, by instilling aspirations into the minds of the young which elevate above local prejudice which seeks the broad theater of the world. By no means let the young be too sensitive to evil report but solace themselves by giving it the blush in the beauty of a virtuous life. Be not overpowered by the hypocritical self-righteous but conquer them. To the uncharitable I would say, study thyself, look well for the mote in thine own eye, that thou mayest see clearly to pluck the one from thy brother's eye. The eyes and ears of the slanderer and evil doer are ever on the lookout. A young man or woman cannot deviate one iota from the strict path of rectitude, but that like a sleuth-hound they are scented afar off by the busy-body, and the finger of scorn is pointed at them, and their presence is odious to those self-righteous. This is certainly contrary to the teachings by divine powers. Taking the parable of the Savior as a criterion to go by we are constrained to believe that there is no redemption beyond for such. When a lewd woman (like there are many in this age) was persecuted by a host of evil doers and demanded chastisement, even went so far as to urge Christ to put her to death, but he rebuked them, saying, "If there is one present without sin let him cast the first stone." It is needless to say none were thrown. And why was this? and who were those accusers? They were those self-righteous, full of sin and iniquity, yet set up as sanctified saints who are not known as sinners. We tremble when we think of the injustice we are doing our fellowmen by passing judgment on them when we believe them to be in disrepute with their fellowmen. For when we find fault and come into controversy with men and they come unto judgment, that the judges may judge them; then they shall justify the righteous, and con-

demn the wicked—which are these self-righteous—we tremble when we read in the sacred scripture what doom these people will meet in the great and coming day. For it is written when they see their mistake they shall be troubled with terrible fear and shall be amazed at the strangeness of salvation so far beyond anything that they looked for. For they have erred from the way of truth and the light of righteousness has not shone upon them, and the sun of righteousness has never risen upon them. The righteous shall live forevermore, their reward also is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the Most High. But the self-righteous! Alas, the right aiming thunderbolt shall go abroad, and from the clouds, as from a well-drawn bow, shall they fly to the mark. And hailstones full of wrath shall be cast on them, and the mighty shall stand against them and blow them away.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

MARY DEETS

Why has the Brethren church and the dear EVANGELIST been so very silent upon the subject of right and wrong in warfare, or authorized bloodshed.

We as a nation have been boasting of our civilized and Christian nation. We thought we were so far Christianized that bloodshed could not be tolerated in our land. (Although wars are prophesied in the latter days, they need not of a necessity be bloodshed.) No, not in God's chosen nation. A Christian nation! The writer hoped that the time had come of which St. Paul speaks in Ephesians 6: 12, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against spiritual wickedness in high places." Also believed that since Christ died and was resurrected for all, his followers must be instrumental in saving souls by destroying sin and saving the sinner. We boasted much of our fair, beautiful and peaceable nation. Yes, we said peace and safety; we are a righteous nation before God. We had lived some thirty years without (authorized) bloodshed directly in our midst. But where are we today? Who will say that God is not permitting affliction to come upon us on account of not sweeping our own nation's doors.

We were resting in peace while millions of souls were yearly going down to eternal death, and this alone through the influence of two great sins, namely, the saloon and the brothel (with many other abominable unclean sins.) We speak of the sins regardless of the millions of dollars wasted upon these twin sisters, monsters of death. Yes, some are sacrificing their lives to overcome these moral evils which are worse than starvation. But how many of so-called Christians do not take a serious thought or prayer for the sins of our nation. The home, mar-